

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Social Services	(2) MEETING DATE 7/26/2016	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Trish Avery Caldwell (805) 788-2601	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve a FY 2016-17 new service contract (Clerk's File) for the Independent Living Program (ILP)/Extended Foster Care (EFC) with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI), a local foster family agency, in the amount of \$380,594. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, a new service contract with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI), a local foster family agency, for the Independent Living Program (ILP)/Extended Foster Care (EFC) for FY 2016-17 in the amount of \$380,594.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Federal - 53% 2011 Realignment - 47%	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$380,594.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$380,594.00	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) 19001654		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: _____	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Morgan Torell			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Social Services / Trish Avery Caldwell
(805) 788-2601

DATE: 7/26/2016

SUBJECT: Request to approve a FY 2016-17 new service contract (Clerk's File) for the Independent Living Program (ILP)/Extended Foster Care (EFC) with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI), a local foster family agency, in the amount of \$380,594. All Districts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, a new service contract with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI), a local foster family agency, for the Independent Living Program (ILP)/Extended Foster Care (EFC) for FY 2016-17 in the amount of \$380,594.

DISCUSSION

Nationally, in 2014 the foster care system served over 415,000 children temporarily removed from abusive or neglectful homes, or children that no longer have a parent(s) that can provide care for other reasons [(Adm. for Children and Families, The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), Statistics, Report #22, <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/>)].

Statewide there are approximately 60,000 children and youth in foster care annually (2014, Annie E. Casey Foundation, www.kidsdata.org; Topic: Child and Youth Safety; Foster Care) and countywide the Department of Social Services of San Luis Obispo County (DSS) provides foster care services to roughly three hundred and fifty (350) children and youth each year ([Department of Social Services Snapshot of Children in Foster Care, June 30, 2015](#)). Of these, approximately 200 youth age 14-21, participate in the local ILP.

To help foster care youth age 14-21 succeed as they enter adulthood and independence, the State provides funding to Counties for the Independent Living Program (ILP) and Extended Foster Care (EFC) services. These are mandated programs with services focused in four (4) key areas: employment, life skills, education and vocational training, and permanency. Employment services are designed to meet the special individual needs of foster youth and offer access to subsidized employment, career resource centers, and an employment specialist dedicated to guiding and supporting each youth in employment related decisions. The Life Skills component includes teaching about budgeting, smart shopping, finding and keeping housing, and various health services. While gaining important life skills knowledge, ILP staffs work with youth to outline education and vocational training opportunities available to them. Educational services include comprehensive assessment testing, creating an individual education plan, availability of an academic counselor, and one-on-one guidance with vocational training programs.

Foster youth are also provided with services aimed at identifying permanent adult relationships before exiting foster care. These services complement Assembly Bill 12 ([AB 12](#)) which became effective January 2012 and emphasizes the need for foster youth/young adults to establish supportive adult relationships beyond the age of 18 years. Research shows that youth connected to a positive and supportive adult upon leaving the foster care system are more likely to obtain stable housing, be employed and have life-long positive and supportive relationships. While AB 12 acknowledges the importance of positive adult/parental relationships for youth/young adults, the major impact of [AB 12](#) (All County Letter

(ACL) [ACL 11-61](#)) is extended foster care monetary benefits for youth until they are age 21. Receiving benefits for a longer period of time enables youth/young adults to stabilize while learning how to manage work and/or school and domestic responsibilities like shopping, staying in housing, saving, and budgeting.

In February 2015, the County released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for ILP/EFC services that closed on March 13, 2015 (County RFP #1304). Based on the RFP evaluation, DSS selected FCNI. FCNI is a private, nonprofit local foster family agency (FFA) that began providing services in 1987 with the purpose of creating family-based treatment programs as an alternative to group home or institutional care for children and youth. The agency's mission is "to enhance the well-being of children and families in partnership with our community" and serves approximately 1,600 children, youth and families annually ([2015 FCNI Annual Report](#)). The agency provides extensive Transitional Age Youth (TAY) services under five (5) programs:

1. Transitional Housing Placement Program
2. Transitional Housing Program Plus
3. Transitional Housing Program Plus Foster Care
4. Independent Living Program (ILP)
5. Transitional Age Youth Financial Assistance Program

FCNI has been providing ILP related services to TAY for over 26 years and is currently the ILP provider in Santa Barbara County. The ILP contract with the County will be an expansion of services already being provided by FCNI. For more information about services offered by FCNI you may visit their website at www.fcni.org.

Approval of this new contract will ensure FCNI provides ILP/EFC services for the County in support of the outcomes of Assembly Bill 636 (AB 636), the Child Welfare System Improvement and Accountability Act (better known as the System Improvement Plan or SIP), which focuses on continuous improvement, interagency partnerships, community involvement and public reporting on outcomes. These services support the Department and County goal of ensuring all people in the community enjoy healthy, successful and productive lives, and have access to the basic necessities.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

This contract was developed in partnership with the FCNI and County Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract as to legal form and effect.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The total contract amount for FY 2016-17 with FCNI for ILP/EFC is \$380,594. The contract is included in the Department of Social Services adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2016-17 and will require no additional General Fund contribution.

Agency	Approved FY 15-16	Budgeted FY 16-17	Notes	Sharing Ratios		
				Federal	Realignment 2011	County
Family Care Network, Inc.	\$380,594	\$380,594	Independent Living Program and Extended Foster Care	53%	47%	0%

RESULTS

FCNI just completed their first year operating the ILP program for San Luis Obispo County. The full year results will be reported on next year. Highlights for the first nine months of FY 15-16 include:

The expansion of the ILP program includes youth in care at the age of 14. Although the regulations allow for eligibility to the ILP program beginning at age 14, the program has not served youth in prior years until they reach the age of 15.5. By serving youth at the age of 14, youth are well informed and more prepared at the start of their high school career in order to better plan for college or vocational training.

All youth in the ILP program received information regarding the availability of college counseling and planning and 98%

were referred; resulting in 95% of eligible participants establishing a college/vocational plan.

All participating youth in the ILP program received verbal and/or written information about health and wellbeing including but not limited to: substance abuse, pregnancy prevention, sexually transmitted infections and maintaining healthy relationships.

Participating youth have information about essential community resources and know how to use them and can demonstrate the skills to obtain food, counseling, and housing.

FY 16-17

The performance outcomes have been slightly modified to eliminate outcomes that FCNI does not have access to or that the Department of Social Service (DSS) can readily access internally.

FCNI shall serve all eligible youth/young adults referred to the ILP/EFC programs.

FCNI shall provide services to all eligible ILP/EFC participants and report in the following age groups: 14-15, 16-17 and 18-20.

FCNI shall provide services that result in ninety percent (90%) of the participants who participate in the Money Management curriculum having a savings account. For the purpose of this outcome eligible participants are defined as those living independently in a SILP, transitional housing, or other independent living arrangement.

FCNI shall provide services that result in participants who complete the Job Skills/Career Planning curriculum achieving the following outcomes:

- One hundred percent (100%) of eligible participants will prepare a resume and complete a master job application to use when completing future applications.

- Eighty-five percent (85%) of eligible participants will be working if not in school (age 18 and above).

- One hundred percent (100%) of eligible participants will be seeking work if not in school or already employed (age 18 and above).

FCNI shall provide services that result in participants who complete the Educational Planning curriculum achieving the following outcomes:

- Ninety percent (90%) of participants who are eligible for a General Education Diploma (GED)/High School (HS) graduation will obtain their diploma or its equivalent.

- Ninety-five percent (95%) of eligible participants will establish a college/vocational training plan.

- Seventy-five percent (75%) of eligible participants will enroll in higher education/vocational training.

FCNI shall track and report on the number of youth age fourteen (14) and above who participated in the Educational Planning curriculum and that were referred for college counseling and planning to a County selected service provider.

FCNI shall provide services that result in one hundred percent (100%) of participants who participate and complete the Health and Wellbeing curriculum receiving information (verbal and/or written) in the areas of substance abuse, pregnancy prevention, sexually transmitted infections, and maintaining healthy relationships.

FCNI shall track and report the number of participants that:

- Become pregnant while in the program.

- Entered the program while pregnant.

- Their children became a 300 dependent while in the program.

- Participated in the program and are parents.

FCNI shall provide services that result in participants who participate in the Independent Living program achieving the following outcomes:

One hundred percent (100%) of participants will demonstrate the skills to obtain safe, stable and secure housing. This will include eligible participants being provided information, verbal or written, in the areas of locating housing, utilities, basic landlord and tenant rights and keeping a home secure.

One hundred percent (100%) of eligible participants eighteen (18) or older will have originals/copies of all vital documents, including at least: social security card, photo ID, immunization and other medical records, and birth certificate.

FCNI shall provide services that result in participants served achieving the following Permanent Supportive Relationship outcomes:

One hundred percent (100%) of eligible participants who request a mentor will be assigned one.

One hundred percent (100%) of eligible participants will report having at least one (1) permanent adult connection.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Clerk's File Statement for Contract with Family Care Network, Inc (FCNI)/ILP